

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
OVERSEER OF THE POOR,
AND
Superintending School Committee,
OF THE
TOWN OF CHESTER,
FOR THE
**Year Ending March 1st,
1883.**

DERRY, N. H.:
PRINTED BY CHARLES BARTLETT,
1883.

Special Announcement

FOR THE
SPRING OF 1883.

TEMPLE & FARRINGTON,
MANCHESTER, N. H.

Would call the attention of the public to the largest assortment of
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latest patterns, from the best manufacturers, at very low prices.

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MANCHESTER, N. H.

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TOWN OF CHESTER.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1882.

Moderator.—SILAS F. LEARNARD.

Town Clerk.—CYRUS F. MARSTON.

Representative.—CHAS. A. WILCOMB.

Selectmen.—CHARLES CHASE, ADDISON A. BEAN, GEORGE S. WEBSTER.

Overseer of the Poor.—GEORGE S. WEBSTER.

Superintending School Committee.—HARRIETTE A. MELVIN.

Treasurer.—JOHN W. NOYES.

Collector.—SILAS F. LEARNARD.

Auditors.—CYRUS F. MARSTON, WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL, AUGUSTUS P. MORSE.

Supervisors.—CHARLES S. WILCOMB, ALBERT F. B. EDWARDS, RUFUS W. MOORE.

Taxes assessed for the year 1882 are as follows :—

State tax	. . . . .	\$1,016 00
County tax	. . . . .	1,280 89
School tax required by law	. . . . .	889 00
Town tax	. . . . .	2,500 00
School-house tax in District No. 8	. . . . .	70 00
Non-resident highway tax	. . . . .	113 94
Tax on dogs	. . . . .	70 00
Per cent added	. . . . .	266 97
	—————	\$6,206 80

The Selectmen and Overseer of the Poor charge themselves with orders drawn on the Treasurer for the following purposes, amounting to \$2,553 30:—

Amount of School Money raised by tax	\$889 00	
Literary Fund	89 87	
Balance of dog tax for 1880 and 1881	102 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,080 87

SCHOOL MONEY.

District No. 1, Nelson Gillingham	\$249 08	
2. Frank E. Leighton	161 72	
3, George M. Clark	169 12	
4, James Buchanan	69 33	
5, William Weeks	58 49	
6, Oren F. Page	65 21	
7. Charles M. Green	91 74	
8, Mrs. Elisabeth Dolber	88 03	
9, Amos Sanborn	63 36	
10, A. B. Parker	47 06	
District No. 1, Auburn. A. M. Ballou,	17 73	
	<hr/>	\$1,080 87

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

State tax	\$1,016 00	
County tax	1,280 89	
	<hr/>	\$2,296 89

EXPENSES OF TOWN HALL.

John F. Robie,	\$16 52	
George B. Sanders for warming three times	1 50	
W. W. Hubbard. top casement	1 60	
	<hr/>	\$19 62

FIRE WARDS.

James Gerah, repairs on engine and oil- ing hose	5 70	
	<hr/>	\$5 70

PRINTING AND STATIONERY.

Charles Bartlett for printing town reports	\$28 50	
Temple & Farrington, stationery . . .	3 03	
Charles S. Wilcomb, to get reports printed	1 50	
Temple & Farrington, for invoice books and stationery	3 55	
Charles Bartlett, tax bills	2 00	
“ for warrants	1 50	
	<hr/>	\$40 08

LEGAL ADVICE.

I. L. Heath, legal advice	3 00	
	<hr/>	3 00

BREAKING ROADS.

Leon B. Richardson	\$7 00	
William C. Ela	39 17	
Ebenezer Sanborn District No. 10 . . .	13 87	
Henry Knights District No. 13	7 25	
J. D. Morse District No. 2	7 00	
William P. W. Whittemore District No. 1	5 50	
George W. Clark District No. 14 . . .	88	
William A. Smith District No. 15 . . .	75	
William Weeks	2 38	
George W. Weeks District No. 5 1882	2 24	
George W. Weeks to Feb. 5, 1883 . . .	4 09	
Horace E. True, 1882	1 62	

Ivory J. Lovering, to Feb. 5, 1883	.	1	87
Charles H. Knowles, to Feb. 17, 1883	.	1	87
Richard B. Morse, to Feb 17, 1883	.	1	00
James D. Lane, to Feb. 17, 1883	.	7	50
<hr/>			
			\$103 99

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX WORKED.

John E. Kimball, 1881, Dist. No. 17	.	\$4	29
Ebenezer Sanborn, 1881, Dist. No. 10	.	13	85
Charles N. Fitz, 1882, District No. 2	.	21	08
Henry Knights, 1882, Dist. No. 13	.	13	13
John E. Kimball, Dist. No. 17	.	19	71
Daniel S. West Dist. No. 16	.	1	36
William P. W. Whittemore, Dist. No. 1	.	2	41
S. F. Larnard, bills worked	.	9	47
J. H. Smith, Dist. No. 15	.	1	56
Ivory J. Lovering, Dist. No. 11	.	10	80
Clark B. Hall	.	2	03
Lewis Sanborn, Dist. No. 10	.		91
George W. Weeks, Dist. No. 5	.	1	80
Richard B. Morse, Dist. No. 4	.	3	00
James Buchanan, Dist. No. 4	.		23
N. B. Couch, Dist. No. 6	.	5	10
<hr/>			
			\$110 73

IMPROVEMENT ON HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

John E. Kimball for plank and stringers			
to bridge in Dist. No. 17,	.	\$6	25
Henry Knights, for rails	.	4	87
John E. Kimball, bank wall	.	34	34
J. Wesley Smith. getting out stone	.	35	00
Charles Sanborn, bridge plank	.	11	36
Lewis Sanborn, repairs on bridge	.	3	00
George W. Weeks, repairs on road	.	5	40
Charles H. Knowles, repairs on bridge	.		99
<hr/>			
			\$101 21

ABATEMENT OF TAXES ON S. F. LEARNARD'S LIST FOR 1881.

Charles Sanborn, steam mill, paid in San-	
down	\$16 20
John S. Brown, Newton, tax on steam	
mill	19 20
Stearns H. Smith, over taxed . . .	1 95
James M. Heath, paid in Kingston .	3 44
Clarence A. Waymouth	1 62
Charles Dennis, paid in Epping . . .	1 62
Joel Chamberlain	1 62
William Rand	1 62
William Bailey	1 62
Charles P. Carr	1 62
Andrew J. Shattuck	1 62
Earnest O. Raymond	1 88
Ezekiel Currier, wrong tax	2 88
1882.	
George W. French, died	1 45
Samuel S. Adams, "	1 45
Charles Pressey, "	1 45
	<hr/>
	\$61 24

RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

James F. Brown for 33	\$8 25
Lafayette Chesley for 15	3 75
	<hr/>
	\$12 00

DAMAGES ON HIGHWAYS.

John E. Kimball, to plough	\$5 00
Horace M. Smith, to wagon	3 25
William A. Smith, to plough	2 00
Hazen Mills for repairing Wagon . .	3 80
	<hr/>
	\$14 05

SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

George W. Clark	2 sheep	.	.	.	\$8 00	
Noah H. Weeks,	2 "	.	.	.	7 00	
Geo. W. Weeks,	1 "	.	.	.	3 50	
Wm. A. Smith,	8 "	.	.	.	28 00	
						<hr/>
						\$46 50

SCHOOL HOUSE TAX.

Horace E. and Charles F. True,						
Dist. No. 8	.	.	.	.	\$70 00	
						<hr/>
						\$70 00

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

S. F. Learnard's discount 3 per cent.,						
paid before Aug. 1	.	.	.	.	\$80 30	
						<hr/>
						\$80 30

CEMETERY.

McDuffe and Morse Gate	.	.	.	.	\$6 30	
R. H. Hazelton, care of cemetery	.	.	.	.	4 00	
						<hr/>
						\$10 30

GUIDE POST.

John Wason	.	.	.	.	.	\$2 00
						<hr/>
						\$2 00

NEW ROAD.

John Wason	.	.	.	.	.	\$10 00
						<hr/>
						\$10 00

BOUNTY ON CROWS.

Charles Chase for 77	.	.	.	.	\$7 70	
Addison A. Bean for 58	.	.	.	.	5 80	
George S. Webster for 88	.	.	.	.	8 80	
						<hr/>
						\$22 30

TOWN CLERK.

Cyrus F. Marston	\$20 00	
	<hr/>	\$20 00

SUPERVISORS.

John W. Noyes	\$6 00	
Edmund Sleeper	3 00	
Anderson Holman	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$12 00

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Harriette A. Melvin	\$40 00	
	<hr/>	\$40 00

TOWN TREASURER.

John W. Noyes	\$25 00	
	<hr/>	\$25 00

COLLECTING TAXES.

S. F. Learnard, balance for 1881 .	\$30 04	
S. F. Learnard in part for 1882 . .	80 00	
	<hr/>	\$110 04

SELECTMEN'S SERVICES.

Charles Chase	\$58 75	
Addison A. Bean	33 75	
George S. Webster	38 25	
	<hr/>	\$130 75

SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES.

Charles Chase	\$11 62	
Addison A. Bean	5 40	
George S. Webster	7 00	
	<hr/>	\$24 02

OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

George S. Webster, for services and ex-		
penses	\$15 00	
	<hr/>	\$15 00

AUDITORS' SERVICES.

Cyrus F. Marston	\$2 00	
William P. Underhill	2 00	
Augustus P. Morse	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$6 00

AUDITORS AND SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES.

Addison A. Bean	\$4 50	
	<hr/>	\$4 50

REPORT OF GEORGE S. WEBSTER OVERSEER
OF THE POOR.

Frank P. Brown, for goods furnished Hannah L. Currier, from Feb. 15, 1882, to Feb. 15, 1883	\$65 00	
	<hr/>	\$65 00
Mrs. H. Knippee, for boarding Edmund K. Morse, from Feb. 17, 1882, to Feb. 16, 1883	\$81 68	
Star Clothing Company, for clothes	5 00	
	<hr/>	\$86 68
Betsey A. Waymonth, for boarding Clarence A. Waymonth Feb. 18, 1882, to Feb. 17, 1883	\$65 00	
	<hr/>	\$65 00

Ebenezer Hoyt, for board of Humphrey Niles from March 1, 1882, to March 1, 1883,	\$94 50	
S. W. Hoyt, for clothing	1 30	
James F. Brown, for medical attendance	1 25	
	<hr/>	\$97 05
C. S. Wilcomb house rent for Johnson family, from Feb. 25, 1882, to Feb. 25, 1883	\$25 00	
	<hr/>	\$25 00
Total amount for support of town paupers		\$338 73

COUNTY PAUPERS.

Charles Adams, coffin for Abba Wentworth	\$8 00	
Samuel S. Parker, 9 1-2 weeks board	11 87	
Samuel S. Parker, digging grave	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$21 87
Expenses of John Moore	\$9 00	
	<hr/>	\$9 00
Frederick Griffin, for board of Benj. Griffin, 5 weeks	\$6 25	
Lafayette Chesley, medical attendance	\$6 75	
	<hr/>	\$13 00
		<hr/>
		\$43 87
Collected of Co. and paid town treasurer ————		43 87

GEORGE S. WEBSTER,
Overseer of the Poor.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Overseer of the Poor for the year past, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the several charges.

CYRUS F. MARSTON,
WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL,
AUGUSTUS P. MORSE,
Auditors

Dr.

THE TOWN OF CHESTER IN ACCOUNT WITH

To cash paid for printing and stationery	\$40 08
“ breaking roads	103 99
“ non-resident taxes worked out	110 73
“ improvement on roads and bridges	101 21
“ state tax	1,016 00
“ county tax	1,280 89
“ care of cemetery and hearse	10 30
“ sheep killed by dogs	46 50
“ collecting taxes, bal. of 1881, and in part for '82	110 04
“ discount on taxes paid before Aug. 1	80 30
“ superintending school committee	40 00
“ town treasurer's salary	25 00
“ town clerk, salary and expenses	20 00
“ supervisor's services	12 00
“ school money to districts	1,080 87
“ overseer of poor, services and expenses	15 00
“ support of poor	382 60
“ selectmen services	130 75
“ selectmen expenses	24 02
“ town debt, notes taken up	2,797 80
“ town debt on notes now outstanding	50 50
“ taxes on lists of 1881 and 1882	61 24
“ town hall expenses for repairs, &c.	19 62
“ auditor's services	6 00
“ auditor's and selectmen's expenses	4 50
“ school house tax, district No. 8	70 00
“ bounty on crows	22 30
“ expenditures by fire wards	5 70
“ legal advice	3 00
“ returns of births and deaths	12 00
“ damages on highways	14 05
“ guide posts	2 00
“ expenses of new road near Wason's	10 00
Balance in Treasurer's hands	768 90
	<hr/>
	\$8,477 89

JOHN W. NOYES, TOWN TREASURER.

Cr.

1882			
March	20.	By balance in treasury on settlement, Feb'y 25, 1882	\$981 98
April	1.	By cash of C. A. Wilcomb, for use of town hall to April 1, 1883,	
	10.	By cash of S. F. Learnard on tax list of 1881	25 00
	15.	" " " "	200 00
	18.	" " " "	200 00
May	26.	" " " "	100 00
June	22.	" " " "	100 00
	24.	" " " 1882	150 00
July	3.	" " " "	200 00
	8.	" " " "	150 00
	24.	" " " "	200 00
	28.	" " " "	600 00
Aug.	1.	" " " "	1,300 00
	1.	" " " 1881	150 00
	14.	" " " "	200 00
	21.	" " " 1882	100 00
Oct.	23.	" " " "	100 00
Nov.	8.	" " " "	250 00
	14.	" " " "	100 00
Dec.	1.	" " " "	300 00
	4.	" " " "	100 00
	9.	" state treasurer, railroad tax,	33 12
	9.	" " savings bank tax	934 04
	9.	" " literary fund	97 06
	14.	" N. H. Ins. Co. for repairing damages to town hall	35 00
	22.	" S. F. Learnard, on tax list of 1881	150 00
	22.	" " " 1882	300 00
1883.			
Jan.	1.	" " " 1881	200 00
	1.	" " " 1882	100 00
	23.	" " " "	150 00
	27.	" county for support of paupers	43 87
Feb.	13.	" S. F. Learnard, int. col. on taxes of 1881	21 02
	13.	" " on tax list of 1882	100 00
	17.	" " " "	200 00
	23.	" " " "	406 80

\$8,477 89

JOHN W. NOYES, *Town Treasurer.*

Chester, Feb. 24, 1883.

STATEMENT.

The town owes notes as follows, all on interest at four per ct. per annum, interest cast to March 1, 1883 :—

1878.			
Feb.	1.	Daty Ann Morse . . .	\$355 16
	1.	Moses Webster . . .	1,040 00
	1.	Jonathan Pressey . . .	915 52
	1.	Sarah A. Morse . . .	1,095 51
	1.	Joseph Webster . . .	793 36
	15.	Daniel Sanborn . . .	1,218 66
	15.	William P. Underhill . . .	537 11
April	10.	Mary Butterfield . . .	450 28
July	1.	James D. Lane . . .	308 26
	1.	David Currier . . .	182 45
1879.			
Jan.	9.	George M. Clark . . .	117 66
	19.	Ebenezer Marden . . .	401 81
	19.	John Wason . . .	129 27
Feb.	5.	Matilda S. True . . .	139 68
	10.	Ella E. Webster . . .	130 51
1880.			
Mar.	20.	Benjamin Dearborn . . .	785 71
1881.			
Feb.	1.	Lydia Carr . . .	522 50
Amount of notes outstanding			\$9,123 45
From which amount deduct as follows :			
Cash in Treasurer's hands . . .			\$768 90
Balance due on S. F. Learnard's tax lists			
	of 1882		\$1,300 00
Balance due from United States . . .			895 00
			<hr/> \$2,963 90
Balance against the town March 1, 1883 . . .			\$6,159 55
Reduction the past year			\$2,010 47

JOHN W. NOYES, *Treasurer.*

CHESTER, Feb. 24, 1883.

CHESTER, Feb. 24, 1883.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the Town Treasurer's accounts for the past year, and find the same correctly cast and well vouched.

CYRUS F. MARSTON,
WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL,
AUGUSTUS P. MORSE,

Auditors.

RECORD OF DEATHS.

1882.							AGE.
Feb.	28.	Frederick Wason	.	.	.	.	78
Mar.	3.	David L. Batchelder	.	.	.	.	59
	20.	Mrs. William Tenney	.	.	.	.	73
	24.	Miss Abbie Wentworth	.	.	.	.	81
April	4.	Calvin Hills	.	.	.	.	74
	1.	Miss Emma Hidden	.	.	.	.	35
	6.	Mrs. Betsey Morse	.	.	.	.	81
	7.	Nancy Parker	.	.	.	.	51
May	7.	George French	.	.	.	.	32
	7.	Charles Pressey	.	.	.	.	45
	27.	Mrs. Emily J. Fiske	.	.	.	.	37
June	6.	Mrs. Mehitable Chase	.	.	.	.	88
	23.	James Locke	.	.	.	.	82
	26.	John Cunningham	.	.	.	.	75
July	9.	John B. Goldsmith	.	.	.	.	18
	28.	Mrs. David Currier	.	.	.	.	75
Aug.	10.	Lillie Hills	.	.	.	.	2
Sept.	14.	Mrs. Sarah Abbott	.	.	.	.	60
	19.	Samuel S. Adams	.	.	.	.	37
	20.	Mrs. Benjamin Hills	.	.	.	.	74
	22.	Mrs. Mary J. Cunningham	.	.	.	.	58
	23.	Mrs. Henry Knights	.	.	.	.	72
Nov.	6.	Francis Hills	.	.	.	.	78
	22.	Robert P. Shirley	.	.	.	.	62
	25.	Mrs. David Laro	.	.	.	.	48

Dec.	1.	Gilman Morse	.	.	.	.	.	68
	2.	Hannah Underhill	.	.	.	.	.	25
	19.	Mrs. John A. Hazelton	54
	31.	Woodbury Marsters	60

1883.

Jan.	16.	Ebenezer Wilcomb	86
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The following were brought here for burial.

Jan.	18.	Joseph Knowles	85
Feb.	15.	Mrs. David Worthen	80
	22.	Hazen Basford, (about)	.	.	.	.	.	70
Oct.	13.	Lot Knowles	.	.	.	.	.	82
	18.	Louise Coolidge	.	.	.	.	.	42
Aug.	28.	Mrs. Asenath Dearborn	.	.	.	.	.	68

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee,

FOR 1882-83.

DISTRICT No. 1. Money, \$249.08.

NELSON GILLINGHAM, Prudential Committee

Three terms. 29 weeks. Teacher, Morris W. Morse.

Most of the pupils made very creditable progress during the year. The methods of teaching were interesting, and well calculated to awaken thought. The attendance in the spring and fall terms was quite irregular, but there was a marked improvement in this respect in the winter, the average attendance being 93 per cent of the whole number. The order of the school is deficient.

DISTRICT No. 2. Money, \$161.72.

FRANK E. LEIGHTON, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 23 weeks. Teacher of the spring term, Miss E. Lillian Colby. Of the fall term, Miss Ella E. Webster.

This intelligent and interesting school has usually been one of the best in town. The first term was a pleasant one, and the progress considerable, but the order among the younger children was unsatisfactory.

In the fall term the teacher secured excellent order, while the closing examinations could not but be highly gratifying as indicating the amount of work accomplished, and the evident thoroughness of instruction.

DISTRICT No. 3. Money, \$169.12

MESSRS. CLARK, ROBIE, & UNDERHILL, Prudential Committee.

Three terms. 25 9-10 weeks. Teachers, Miss Mary E. Wilcomb and Miss Emma M. Moore.

Miss Wilcomb taught the three terms with the exception of the last month of the fall term, which was completed in a satisfactory manner by Miss Moore.

While there is no want of ability in this school, there is a lack of a high ambition to excel in punctuality, deportment and scholarship. The teacher did faithful work, had the good will of the school, and was specially successful in arousing the interest of the younger classes.

DISTRICT, No. 4. Money, \$69.33.

J. BUCHANAN, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. Teachers, Miss Olive B. Hazelton, and Miss Carrie B. Hazelton. 12 weeks.

A lack of order was evident in the first visit to the school. There was a gradual improvement in this respect during the first term, and a steady gain in the short fall term. The teachers both worked with diligent and faithful endeavor, and to this the examinations bore witness, but to insure the highest results there must be the hearty coöperation of *all* the parents to secure prompt attendance, and obedience to the school regulations.

DISTRICT, No. 5. Money, \$58.49.

WILLIAM WEEKS, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 15 weeks. Teachers, Miss Lillie R. Dolber and Miss Nellie M. Emerson.

Good order and diligence were apparent in every visit to the school, and in general, satisfactory advancement was made. The parents gave their cordial support, not only to Miss Dolber, who had long ago won their confidence, but also to Miss Emerson, who undertook the school for the first time.

DISTRICT No. 6. Money, \$65.21.

OREN F. PAGE, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 14 weeks. Teacher, Miss Vina M. Richardson. Good order prevailed, and a general studiousness. A higher degree of mental activity on the part of the pupils, together with more animation in recitation, is, however, much to be desired. Perhaps the making of some much-needed repairs on the school building might give an impulse in the right direction.

DISTRICT No. 7. Money, \$91.74.

CHARLES M. GREEN, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 18 weeks. Miss Jennie P. Hazelton, teacher.

This school is one of the foremost in excellence. With a teacher who is an indefatigable worker, and an industrious and enthusiastic school, the highest expectations were realized. The order was admirable, the attendance remarkably good, and the quantity and quality of the work were apparent in the very thorough examinations with which the school closed.

DISTRICT No. 8. Money, \$88.03

MRS. E. E. DOLBER, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 14 weeks. Teacher, Miss Etta E. Griffin.

With almost faultless order and apparent studiousness, there is very great need of arousing the school from monotony of expression. It is perhaps most manifest in reading classes, but underlies most of the habits of study and recitation. The spirit of the school was harmonious, and the teacher gave general satisfaction.

DISTRICT No. 9. Money, \$63.36.

AMOS SANBORN, Prudential Committee

Two terms. 16 1-2 weeks. Teacher, Miss Eva M. Knowles.

A school as small as this, while it affords ample time for explanations and recitations, taxes somewhat the ingenuity of

the teacher to awaken the interest of its members. The behavior of the pupils was good, but most of them did not expend thought enough upon their studies, nor was there an earnest endeavor to attain perfect punctuality.

DISTRICT No. 10. Money, \$47.06

ABEL B. PARKER, Prudential Committee.

Two terms. 14 weeks. Teacher, Mrs. E. S. Hook.

This little school is also a bright one. Each scholar seems to be awake and alert, and anxious to make the most of the privileges of the school. None of the five members were tardy or absent for a single day of the fall term. One was out for a half day, but with good reason.

ROLL OF HONOR.

The following is a list of the names of those who have been perfect in attendance for every half-day of a term.

DISTRICT No. 1. Bella Adams, Joseph L. Adams,* Charles F. Brown, Georgie Edwards, Frank Fisk, Ernest Gillingham, Mary Landergan, Julia M. Morse, Walter Quimby, Addie M. Smith,*

DISTRICT No. 2. Clara C. Chase, Emily M. Ela, Nora B. Greene, Josie M. Richardson, Winnie H. West, Samuel Bell, John S. Couch, Willie H. West.

DISTRICT No. 3. Lottie Carter, Lewis Carter, Myra Parker, Jennie Parker, Chauncey Robie, Henry Robie.

DISTRICT No. 4. Jennie M. Buchanan, Arthur L. Rogers, Frank Smith.

DISTRICT No. 5. Alice B. Abbott, Georgie Abbott, Ida Abbott, Ralph Garland, Luna Holman,* Rena W. Smith, Susie Smith, Frank Welch, Charles Weeks, John Weeks.

DISTRICT No. 6. Alice G. Spofford,* Osmon Spofford, Alice S. Towle.

DISTRICT No. 7. Hattie M. Collins,* Herbert L. Collins,* Hattie Crowell,* Leslie L. Crowell,* Russell M. Everett,* Cora Follansbee,* Alice B. Hazelton,* Sadie L. Stevens,* Ebbie G. Follansbee,* Herbert Crowell, Herman Follansbee, Fred. S. Hazelton, Addie Hutchins, Mary Norris, Georgie Norris.

DISTRICT No. 8. Etta L. Marden,* Jennie Knowles, Mary C. Stevens.

DISTRICT No. 9. Elmer A. Sanborn.

DISTRICT No. 10. Jennie B. Knights, Florence M. Lane,* Marion E. Lane, Emma F. Parker.

Perfect from the time of entering school. Dora Griffin, Ira H. Morse.

Absent in one instance. In No. 10.—Frank Brown, Henry Brown, Willie Brown, Mary Morse, Arthur Rogers, John H. Smith. No. 2.—Elmer Colby, Nettie B. Morse, Arthur H. West. No. 10.—Jesse Pingree.

* 2 Terms.

IN GENERAL.

Many schools have done very good work this year, but a higher degree of scholarship is greatly needed by some of the teachers. Greater thoroughness in the common branches is the *essential* want, but all knowledge can be made to pay tribute to the teacher's work. A teacher who knows nothing of U. S. History, may be able to ask questions upon it from the book, but no one is fitted to *teach* it, who is ignorant of the great events in our Nation's Life. Nor should any one assume to teach Arithmetic, who cannot explain the nature of Fractions, or give the reason on which the rules for computing Interest or the extraction of roots, are founded.

It is inadvisable to put very young children into Grammar; but the classes studying it should be constantly required to

frame sentences of their own to show that they understand the rules. Absolutely essential to the highest mental improvement is good government. To insure this, more attention should be paid to *little things*. The teacher must not submit to be interrupted during recitations, nor allow the pupils to pass to and from their seats in a disorderly manner. Children like something of the nature of a military drill, and are happiest when well governed. The atmosphere of cheerful and prompt decision which prevades some school rooms is a healthful one. On the other hand, alternations of indulgence and severity are most injurious.

Good courage, unfailing patience, great consideration for the wants of childhood, ingenuity and zeal in imparting knowledge, are some of the virtues to be exercised in every school room. Therefore let no one undertake to teach, who does not feel some *real love* for the work.

And while greater care should be taken in *selecting* teachers with reference to the wants of each particular district, parents should not be unmindful of their duty. They should put no unnecessary difficulties in the teacher's way, by countenancing irregular attendance or insubordination. Discussing the faults of teachers in the presence of the children creates more evils than it remedies, and free criticism is often indulged by those who do not *know* whereof they affirm.

CHESTER ACADEMY.

Mr. L. A. Curtis has taught a very successful school in the Academy this Winter. It is highly desirable that there should be two good terms of study here every year. Many cannot afford to go out of town to pursue their studies, and without some such opportunity the quality of our teachers will inevitably deteriorate.

Respectfully,

HARRIETTE A. MELVIN.

Superintendent of Schools.



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